

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00478 211849Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 TRSE-00 /068 W

-----109056 211853Z /40

R 161934Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4740

INFO SANTO DOMINGO 270

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0478

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, DO, XL, XM

SUBJECT: DOMINICA--PROBLEM OF IDENTITY

1. DURING MY RECENT VISIT TO DOMINICA, WHICH SEEMS TO BE MOVING CRAB-WISE TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE, I BECAME MORE AWARE THAN HERETOFORE OF AN INCIPIENT PROBLEM HAVING POTENTIAL FOR SOME CONFUSION. THE DAY DRAWS NEAR WHEN WE SHALL HAVE IN WASHINGTON ANOTHER "SOMINICAN" AMBASSADOR, ANOTHER "DOMINICAN" EMBASSY AND WE SHALL BE DEALING WITH ANOTHER "DOMINICAN" GOVERNMENT.

2. WHEN I RAISED THIS PROSPECT WITH THE OFFICIALS IN ROSEAU THEIR RESPONSE WAS THEY HAD THE NAME FIRST; SINCE COLUMBUS' SECOND VOYAGE IN 1493 TO BE PRECISE. I TOLD THEM IN NONETHELESS FORESAW ENDLESS AND CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION IN THE OFFING FOR THEM. MY IMPRESSION IS THAT THIS POTENTIAL PROBLEM IS A NEW IDEA TO THEM. AFTER CONSIDERING THE MATTER SOME SEEMED ATTRACTED BY AN OLD CARIB NAME FOR THEIR VERDANT ISLAND. I FOUND IT UNPRONOUNCEABLE BUT DID NOT DISCOURAGE THAT TRAIN OF THOUGHT.

3. THE DEPARTMENT IS ADVISED OF THIS PROBLEM IN THE EVENT THE GEOGRAPHER OR PERHAPS SOME OTHER READER HAS A LONG-CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPRESSED HANKERING TO HELP NAME A NEW COUNTRY. POSSIBLY IF OLD BOOKS OR MAPS WERE CONSULTED OR IMAGINATIONS STRETCHED, AN ACCEPTABLE SUGGESTION COULD BE ADVANCED.  
ORTIZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, STATE SYMBOLS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Subject:** DOMINICA--PROBLEM OF IDENTITY  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014